Consider

As you’re reading each factor, consider how it applies to your current situation. Are there any that you can enhance to increase your overall sustainability? Note that not all factors will be relevant to your particular situation. Depending on the type of program and context, some factors may be more influential than others. But the earlier you can focus on these, the better you can position yourself for greater sustainability.

28 Factors That Influence the Sustainability of Programs

FUNDING
- External Funding Environment
- Diverse Sources of Funding
- Sufficient Start-up Resources
- Multi-year Funding
- Realistic Program Budget
- Significant In-kind Resources

PLANNING & EVALUATION
- A Sustainability Plan
- Demonstrated Worth & Value

PROGRAM DESIGN
- Responds to a Clear Need
- Evidence-informed
- Clear Vision and Goals
- Community-driven
- Local Values and Culture
- Volunteer Delivery
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Strategic Dissemination
- Transition to Policy

PARTNERS
- Collaborative Partners
- Program Champions

PERSONNEL
- Strong & Continuous Leadership
- Local Program Staff
- Engaged Funders

HOST AGENCY
- Fit with Host Agency
- Host Agency Capacity

COMMUNITY
- Strong Community Support
- Local Government, Policy Maker & Business Support

COMMUNICATIONS
- High Visibility
- Strategic Communications

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